

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 15 and 16 have been added and no new matter has been added.

The Present Invention and the Cited Prior Art

The present invention provides a method of manufacturing a recording medium. More particularly, the present invention provides a method of applying a layer structure with a signal recording layer to a substrate.

U.S. Patent No. 6,416,633 and U.S. Patent No 5,895,558 are both issued to Spence (collectively "Spence") and contain identical specifications. They disclose a method of treating "packaging or food grade films such as those marketed under the name of SaranTM" ('633, column 15, lines 52-54). U.S. Patent No. 5,601,883 issued to Yamazaki ("Yamazaki") discloses a method of treating "plastics such as gear wheels . . . screws, buttons, toy parts . . . frames of spectacles, the entire surface of ball pens, propelling pencils and the like" (see column 3, lines 40-44).

Spence and Yamazaki do not pertain to recording mediums, in general, or to bodies having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 (b) and (e)

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 (b) and (e) as anticipated by Spence and Yamazaki. Independent claims 1 and 13 recite "forming said layer structure [with at least one signal recording layer] on top of said support substrate." The cited references fail to teach a recording medium, or forming a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on top of a substrate.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of Calif.*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987). As stated above, neither Spence nor Yamazaki teach a signal recording layer, as recited by

the claims, and thus each element is not taught. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1 and 13 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-12 and 14 depend from either claim 1 or 13 and thus contain all of the limitations of claims 1 or 13. The rejection of claims 2-12 and 14 should likewise be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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